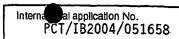
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61B6/00 G01T G01T1/29 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61B G01T Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X WO 02/079802 A (HONGDI LI ; URIBE JORGE 1,5-18,(US); BAGHAEL HOSSAIN (US); UNIV TEXAS 20-22 (US); W) 10 October 2002 (2002-10-10) page 2, line 4 - line 12 page 8, line 17 - page 9, line 30; figures 3,4A,4B,5A,6A,6B US 5 825 031 A (URIBE JORGE ET AL) Α 1 - 2220 October 1998 (1998-10-20) column 8, line 23 - column 9, line 16; figures 7,9 US 2003/058984 A1 (MAKI MICHAEL DALE ET Α 1-22 AL) 27 March 2003 (2003-03-27) paragraph '0047!; figures 2-4 χ US 2002/148970 A1 (LI HONGDI ET AL) 1,5-18,17 October 2002 (2002-10-17) 20-22 the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. . Special categories of cited documents: 'T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of malling of the international search report 18 November 2004 29/11/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Rodriguez Cossio, J Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This international Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. X Claims Nos.: 23 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT — Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Info tion on patent family members

remanon phincariou Mo
PCT/IB2004/05165

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